

REMARKS

Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 22 to 35 will be pending in the present patent application. Claims 1 to 22 have been canceled without prejudice to their presentation in a later continuing patent application. In view of the following remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Applicants first would like to express their appreciation to Examiner Kumar for the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in the species of Example 199 and in the elected subject matter of the claims 1-21. Moreover, Applicants would like to thank Examiner Kumar for the opportunity of telephonic interviews conducted on October 14 and 15, 2004, to discuss the scope of the claims with respect to the allowable elected subject matter. Applicants very much appreciate the time that the Examiner took out of his busy schedule to discuss the present application with Applicants' representative, the undersigned. In accordance with the Examiner's guidance, new claims 22 to 35 are directed to the elected subject matter and are acceptable in scope as indicated by Examiner Kumar during a telephone conference on October 15, 2004. Applicants note that, relative to the last version provided to Examiner Kumar, the proviso in new claim 22 has been changed to correct an error with respect to the position of Q' and U with respect to each another. Accordingly, Applicants submit respectfully that new claims 22 to 35 are in condition for allowance.

Priority

The Office Action indicates that a certified copy of the EPO application to which priority is claimed has not been filed as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b). Applicants submit respectfully that a certified copy of European Patent Application No. 00128477.7, filed on December 23, 2000, was submitted with the filing of the present application on December 21, 2001. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is a copy of the receipt postcard acknowledging that the certified copy of European Patent Application No. 00128477.7 was received by the

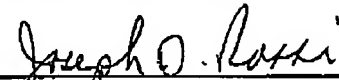
U.S.P.T.O. Accordingly, priority has been properly perfected. Should the Examiner still need further information, the undersigned should be contacted at the telephone number listed below.

Conclusion

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete response to the office action mailed on June 16, 2004, and the allowance of all claims is respectfully requested. If there are any issue that can be resolved by a telephone conference or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (908) 231-3410.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee required and any additional fees that may be needed to Deposit Account No. 18-1982 in the name of Aventis Pharmaceuticals Inc.

Respectfully submitted,



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